

APPROVED: Meeting No. 20-93

ATTEST: *Paula Jewell*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 14-93

May 3, 1993

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on May 3, 1993, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councilmember James T. Marrinan (Mayor Pro Tem)

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember David Robbins

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

ABSENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan (Out of town on business)

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer and City Clerk Paula Jewell.

Upon motion of Councilmember Coyle, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Councilmember Marrinan was designated as Mayor Pro Tem for the evening's meeting.

Re: Worksession with Rockville Seniors, Inc.

Murray Stein, Chairperson, and Board members Don Bokelman, Helen Golden, Ruth Hausafus, Ray Hughes, Bob Mentzer, Loretta Pelletier, Helen Roberto, Arthur Sellers and Ira Walters discussed the following with the Mayor and Council.

The Board reported on the major accomplishments in 1993: (a) 5-Year Plan re: RSI Contributions; (b) Senior programs such as the Birthday Party and Supper Club; (c) Fund-raising

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efforts--yard sale, holiday sale, gift shop, thrift shop and Bingo. Also reported on were some special projects: volunteer tea and award ceremony, Memorial Day Parade, purchase of tables and chair mending.

The Treasurer gave a status report on the FY93 budget and reported that the reserves were spent and RSI was anticipating a short fall this year. Some memberships decreased when dues were raised and although there are plenty of people at the Center, they are not spending money. The Center's closing a few months ago for repairs negatively impacted gift shop and Bingo receipts. Unless other funds come in, normal operation of the Center will not be able to take place.

The Council encouraged RSI to establish a policy which would establish a target for a reserve fund allowing any excess revenue to be used in a current period.

Re: Worksession with Rockville Senior Citizen
Commission

Helen Roberto, Chairperson, and Commission members Estelle Berberian, Armand Capozzi, Stuart Crump, Benton Hanan, and Winston Lark discussed the following with the Mayor and Council.

The members gave insight on various activities and events given throughout the year. The Commission is looking for a way to get the Boys and Girls Club to lower the rent for the adult day care center. The Mayor and Council asked that the Recreation and Parks Director report back regarding this matter.

The Inter-generational party in August and the Holiday Party in December 1992 were well attended. The Commission is assisting with the development and implementation of the carrier alert program. The new brochure on the Pump House was distributed to the Mayor and

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Council. Other activities reported on were the special trash pick-up program for special needs seniors and continuing volunteer activities. The Commission is carefully watching the revitalization of Rockville Center to make sure that pedestrian safety issues are addressed. The Commission expressed disappointment that cuts were made to the Home Health Care program because they have noted an increase in the number of people requesting this service.

Commission members commented on the professionalism of City staff that work with them and expressed appreciation to the Mayor and Council for their continued support.

Re: Worksession with Cultural Arts Commission

George Northway, Chairperson, and Commission members Charles Goldstein, Judy Greenberg, Kenneth Lechter, and Eileen Mader discussed the following with the Mayor and Council.

The Commission's goal is to have funding available for a spectacular art project in the new Town Center. Staff is also pursuing an application for a grant from the Maryland State Arts program that will fund up to 20% of the City's entire arts program.

The standing committees reported on the following:

- o Art in Public Places - attempts are being made to improve on the entries and get a wider range of artists to submit.
- o Vandalism - a growing concern but maintenance is well underway. Sculptures will be photographed for insurance purposes and the artists will be contacted about making repairs.
- o Visual Arts

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- o Cable TV - There may be more input from the Commission regarding the Town Center project. The Commission congratulated Doug Breisch and his staff for their assistance with Cultural Arts Commission's cable productions.

Re: Worksession with Recreation and Park
Advisory Board

Stephen Edwards, Chairperson, and Board members Genie McKay, Terry Baker and Pat Greaney discussed the following with the Mayor and Council.

The Board has been trying to bring some semblance of order between RBBA, RFL, and the City. A memorandum of understanding was drafted between the Mayor and Council and RBBA; however, to date, RBBA has failed to approve it. The Board is also waiting to sit down with RFL on an agreement.

The Board established a subcommittee that will conduct a walk-through of the Town Center; they are concerned that adequate open space be provided and a suggestion was made that the Commission might want to think about ideas for street recreational activities (i.e., chess tables, etc.) for this open space area.

Regarding the Irvington Farm annexation, the Board expressed concern that this development also needs an adequate open space plan.

The Civic Center Subcommittee is looking at major alterations for the Glenview Mansion because of ADA requirements; i.e., accessible public bathrooms and an elevator. Funds will be needed from the Mayor and Council to bring the facilities up to ADA standards.

The Mayor and Council expressed a general consensus that the Mansion should be a multi-use building. The Board had received a petition from the Docents requesting that the historical bathroom be preserved.

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Councilmember Coyle reminded the Board that a sprinkler system needs to be installed in the common areas of the Mansion to protect this historic site against fire damage. Staff reported that they are currently working on this.

City Manager Romer noted that the Mansion has a marketable viability and staff would like a commitment from the Mayor and Council because improvements will cost. Mayor and Council will re-affirm this commitment. Staff to coordinate a show of appreciation to the Docents.

Re: Worksession with Advisory Commission on
Public Education

Iziona Silva, Chairperson, and Board members Ken Coleman and Robert Ekman discussed the following with the Mayor and Council.

Ms. Silva thanked the Mayor and Council for their continuing support and expressed appreciation to Assistant to the City Manager, Cheryl Lampkin. The Commission has been attempting to strengthen ties with the school system. The Commission reported that during community Service Week, the ACPE worked in Maryvale on clean up and flower planting efforts. The Mayor and Council agreed with a suggestion made that a letter be written to the superintendent of schools to point out that the City has a continuing interest in on-site management.

The Commission's future projects involve: use of the City's Rockville Reports and Cable Channel 53 to promote the schools; development of cooperative projects with other City boards and commissions (Human Rights, Police, Recreation and Park) to develop programs for dealing with certain issues, i.e., sexual assault in schools and the clean air act. The Commission would also like to explore expansion of the before-after school programs to other schools.

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MCPTA might be willing to negotiate with ACPE on this and there would have to be some interfacing with the Recreation and Park Advisory Board. The Commission would like to explore opening up the City's sports programs to both genders. City Manager Romer noted he would check into whether the NYSCA program has already explored this and pass along any information to the Board. The Commission would also like to sponsor an educational fair with an emphasis on academics that would involve team competitions from other schools. In addition, they would like to have an education forum next year and the Mayor and Council suggested the following topics: violence, sexual harassment, community service (which will be required for students entering high school in the Fall of 1993) and teenage drinking.

At Councilmember Marrinan's request, staff was asked to look into production of cable spots that would advertise vacancies on boards and commissions by highlighting what the various boards and commission do.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. to reconvene again in Worksession on May 6, 1993, or at the call of the Mayor.